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The Rural Community. By LLEWELLYN MACGARR, M. A.
(New York: Macmillan Company, 1922, Pp XV + 239,
\$1.80.)

The rural community in America, as a type, is so elusive, as yet so embryonic, that generalization regarding it is difficult. One is likely to begin with the community and end in a discussion of rural life in general. Thus the author of this book under the title, "The Rural Community," has given us an introduction to certain rural life topics, particularly the survey, schools, the socially inadequate classes, and certain economic and social forces which influence rural progress. There are also chapters on the national importance of rural life, rural vs. urban and characteristics of rural communities. The treating of these topics obviously necessitates a topical rather than a community point of view and as the writer shifts from the one-room school district to the township, the county, and occasionally the trade area, the community point of view is very much submerged if not altogether lost, as in the case of roads which are treated from the standpoint of their development in the State and Nation but with little local application.

The book seems to have been written primarily for teachers' reading circles and study clubs, and the author has evidently selected her material with a view to its utility for such groups. It should prove valuable, however, for class work in rural high schools.

The book is admirable in many respects. It is well written, accurate, progressive, and mechanically attractive. The author sees the rural life problem as one of leading rural people to secure for themselves adequate means, and with the means to live more completely. One of the strongest features of the book is the wealth of supplementary material following each chapter, in the form of questions, bibliography, and outlines for local study. The chapters on the survey and the school are well done. One wishes that certain other phases of rural life had been treated as thoroughly.

The author makes the church one of the "three socially fundamental institutions of our present civilization" (p. 81), but devotes a scant six pages to the *rural* church. It is confusing to classify children as *normal*, *subnormal* and *abnormal* (p. 107). The discussion on tenancy scarcely gets into its

social effects. One misses any treatment of so vital a topic as physical health. Inadequate emphasis is given the chapter on "Constructive Social Forces in Farm Life," the economic forces coming in for a much better share.

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The results of an extension method of working out an agricultural program is reported in a recent Farm Management publication, "Agriculture in Ohio and Switzerland Counties," by W. V. Kell, Purdue University.

A farm household account book has been published by the Extension Service, Arkansas University, to fill the needs of the housewife, and will be used beginning January 1, 1923. The pages of this book are in duplicate and each alternate sheet is perforated so that the carbon copy can be torn out at the end of each month and sent to the Agricultural College at Fayetteville.

A farm account book for the use of the farmer has been prepared and will be printed before January 1. This book has duplicate sheets and perforated sheets like the household account book. A special effort is being made to get a large number of accounts sent in to the college during the coming year.

Professor Theodore Macklin wishes to add to the list of marketing bulletins published in the July issue the following:

California Agricultural Experiment Station Circular No. 217—Methods of Marketing Vegetables in California, by S. S. Rogers, January, 1920.

Circular No. 222—Fundamental Principles of Cooperation in Agriculture, by G. Harold Powell, October, 1920.

University of Illinois—Studies in Social Science, Vol. 8, No. 1, Cooperation and Other Organized Methods of Marketing California Fruit and Other Products, by J. W. Lloyd.

United States Department of Agriculture—Farmers' Bulletin No. 1144, Cooperative Marketing. O. B. Jensness.